

**COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE NETWORK**  
*Children, Family & Futures*

**HIGH DESERT PARTNERSHIP FOR KIDS**

MINUTES

January 9, 2006  
Desert Mountain Educational Service Center  
17800 Outer Highway 18  
Apple Valley, CA

**In Attendance:**

Barnett, Carolyn	High Desert New Beginnings	<a href="mailto:honb@verizon.net">honb@verizon.net</a>	760-255-1346
Brown, Kathy	High Desert Relative Caregivers	<a href="mailto:Bkb1118@verizon.net">Bkb1118@verizon.net</a>	760-247-1618
German, Melissa	Public Health	<a href="mailto:mgerman@dph.sbcounty.gov">mgerman@dph.sbcounty.gov</a>	909-388-5731
Gilmer, Angela	Volunteers of America		909-888-4577
Gonzalez, Mary Grace	Adelanto School District		760-246-7337
Hankton, Lucille	Hesperia Employment Resource	<a href="mailto:lhankton@jesd.sbocunty.gov">lhankton@jesd.sbocunty.gov</a>	760-244-6064
Horn, Helen	Desert Mountain FICS	<a href="mailto:hhorn@victor.org">hhorn@victor.org</a>	760-245-4695
Jaquish, Mary	First 5 San Bernardino	<a href="mailto:mjaquish@cfc.sbcounty.gov">mjaquish@cfc.sbcounty.gov</a>	909-386-7706
Lewis, Kathy	Desert Mountain FICS	<a href="mailto:Kathleenkl2004@aol.com">Kathleenkl2004@aol.com</a>	760-245-4695
Manghane, Colleen	Guest		760-949-0830
Matthews, Patricia	HDFDCA		760-961-0052
McKinney, Denise	Children's Network	<a href="mailto:dmckinney@hss.sbcounty.gov">dmckinney@hss.sbcounty.gov</a>	909-387-8966
Melanson, Susan	Children's Network	<a href="mailto:smelanson@hss.sbcounty.gov">smelanson@hss.sbcounty.gov</a>	909-387-5394
Nagel, Vici	HD Community Collaborations	<a href="mailto:info@highdesertcc.org">info@highdesertcc.org</a>	760-949-2930
Price, Felita	Priceless Etiquette Institute		909-953-5487
Rivera, Janette	SBCSS	<a href="mailto:Janette_rivera@sbcss.k12.ca.us">Janette_rivera@sbcss.k12.ca.us</a>	760-386-7940
Rodriguez, Madeline	DCS	<a href="mailto:mrodriguez@hss.sbcounty.gov">mrodriguez@hss.sbcounty.gov</a>	760-243-6729
Savala-Mahany, Maria	Bridges for Families/St.Marys	<a href="mailto:mahanym1@stjoe.org">mahanym1@stjoe.org</a>	760-242-2311
Tracy, Kerri	Hesperia USD	<a href="mailto:Kerri.tracy@hesperia.org">Kerri.tracy@hesperia.org</a>	760-244-4411
Wilson, Julie	Wagon Wheel Ranch	<a href="mailto:Wagonwheelranch7@msn.com">Wagonwheelranch7@msn.com</a>	760-389-2002

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

- Everyone was welcomed and self-introductions were made.

**2. Additions/Deletions to Agenda**

**3. Approval of November Minutes**

#### **4. Presentation: Felita Price, Priceless Etiquette Institute**

- See attachment.

#### **5. Children's Network Report – Susan Melanson**

- Children's Network 2005 annual report will be available in February.
- Susan promoted the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual "Shine a Light on Child Abuse" breakfast on March 23<sup>th</sup>. She also encouraged everyone to nominate someone for a "Shine a Light on Child Abuse" award.

#### **6. First 5 San Bernardino Report – Mary Jaquish**

- 2005 has been a wonderful year for First 5 San Bernardino.
- First 5 San Bernardino will have openings for the positions of Office Assistant, Evaluation Analyst, Community Engagement Manager, and Community Engagement Specialist. Check web page for more information.
- First 5 will be distributing a letter with new guidelines for securing a sponsorship from First 5.
- First 5 will hold some Community Forums with Richard Jarvis in February.

#### **7. Roundtable/Discussion**

Carolyn Barnett of High Desert New Beginnings

- Offering to teach Parenting Skills in the home – Barstow area, no income requirements.
- Offering Workforce Development to teens up to age 21 (resume building, bus passes...)
- Still offering GED testing in Hesperia. If interested in more info, please contact High Desert New Beginnings via email – hdnb@verizon.net
- They have a pre-school program for children ages 3,4, and 5.

Melissa German of San Bernardino County Department of Public Health

- The STD Control Program is sending out surveys to 12 – 21 year olds about their sexual health. They still need more completed surveys in the High Desert area, especially Barstow.
- There's a chlymedia breakout amongst teens in the Barstow area.
- Stated that half of new HIV infections are under 25 years of age.

Angela Gilmer of Volunteers of America

- Offering anger management and ESL classes.
- Continuing with GED prep and is actively looking for GED testing sites.
- Parenting classes will be split into two separate classes – one for parents with children ages 0-5 and one for children ages 6-12.

Maria Savala-Mahany of St. Mary's

- They have parenting classes in English and Spanish.
- They're currently helping 150 families, with about 80 referrals a month.

Kathy Brown of High Desert Relative Caregivers

- Informed everyone that their new calendar is out and encouraged everyone to pick one up.
- High Desert Relative Caregivers is looking to network with Juvenile Probation, police departments, counseling centers, health departments, and welfare departments about what they do and how they can help.
- Offering parenting classes and they have a program for at-risk youth.
- They provide resources to Desert Mountain FICS and Desert Mountain SELPA.

Madeline Rodriguez of Dept. of Children's Services

- Always on the look out for more resources!

Helen Horn of Desert Mountain FICS

- Working with the community on a Wrap Around program.

Julie Wilson of the Wagon Wheel Ranch

- Working on opening a ranch where underprivileged kids can experience "ranch life".
- Looking to network and connect with the community and other non-profit organizations.

Kerri Tracy of Hesperia Unified School District

- Talked about the "On Task" project, which is a community service program for expelled or suspended kids.
- They provide support, counseling, and resources for children and struggling families.

Julian Weaver of Desert Mountain SELPA

- Working with other departments and groups on a Strategic Gang Plan.
- The Board of Supervisors approved the appointment of a person to be in charge of the Strategic Gang Plan.
- Every region will have their own version of the SGP, because every region has it's own specific problems.
- The plan works with the ideas of "suppression, intervention, and prevention", NOT the usual "feel good" type of program.

- Starting a Foster Youth Resources program in mid-January, with an Open House in February. It's targeting children ages 16-18 in group homes that need help with transitioning, GED prep, and financial and career planning.

Janette Rivera of San Bernardino County Schools.

- Provides resources and parenting classes for pre-school families.

**Next Meeting Date: February 13, 2006**

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Respectfully Submitted,

Denise McKinney, Children's Network  
High Desert Partnership for Kids Recording Secretary  
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